

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 SP-02 STR-04

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TAGS: EAGR, EAID, EEC
SUBJECT: COMMISSION PROPOSAL ON EC PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL MEETING, JUNE 23-27, 1975

REF: A. EC BRUSSELS 9503, 12/3/74; B) EC A-359, 12/4/74

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE COMMISSION FEELS THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD
PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL AND THE INTERNATIONAL FUND
FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IT HAS RECOMMENDED TO THE EC COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS THAT PROVISION BE MADE AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL TO ALLOW THE COMMUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS VIEWS WITHOUT
RESTRICTIONS AND TO SUBMIT TEXTS WITHIN ITS FIELD OF COMPETENCE
ALTHOUGH IT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO VOTE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE MISSION HAS OBTAINED THE TEXT OF A COMMISSION PROPOSAL TO THE
COUNCIL REGARDING THE FUTURE STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD
FOOD
COUNCIL. THE COMMISSION PAPER STATES THAT "IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT
MANY OF THE SUBJECTS TREATED BY THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL CONCERN
MATTERS WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE COMMUNITY, THE LATTER'S
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INSTITUTIONS SHOULD ESTABLISH POSITIONS ON THOSE SUBJECTS,

ASSERT THEM AT THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, ENGAGE IN THE CORRESPONDING NEGOTIATIONS AND ACCEPT, AS NECESSARY, ANY RESULTING COMMITMENTS." THE COMMISSION BELIEVES THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD JOIN THE COUNCIL AND BE REPRESENTED IN THAT BODY BY THE COMMISSION. ONLY ITALY, FRANCE, GERMANY AND U.K. THUS FAR ARE MEMBERS. BUT SINCE COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP IS NOT POSSIBLE "UNDER THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES," THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDS TO THE COUNCIL THAT A PROVISION BE INSERTED INTO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL AT ITS JUNE 23-27 SESSION WHICH "WITHOUT GRANTING THE COMMUNITY THE RIGHT TO VOTE, WOULD GIVE IT THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS VIEWS TO THE COUNCIL WITHOUT RESTRICTION AND SUBMIT TEXTS ON MATTERS WITHIN THE FIELD OF ITS COMPETENCE." THE COMMISSION HOPES THE COUNCIL WILL APPROVE THE PROPOSAL IN TIME TO CARRY THIS OUT AT THE MEETING.

3. THE COMMISSION REFERS TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE U.S. WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IT BELIEVES THAT:
- MEMBER STATES SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO COORDINATE AND HARMONIZE THE POSITIONS THEY WILL BE CALLED ON TO TAKE IN FUTURE IN RELATION TO THE FUND AND ITS METHOD OF OPERATION;
- THE EC COUNCIL SHOULD, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, TAKE UP A POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE COMMUNITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE FUND.
"THE COMMISSION ITSELF BELIEVES SUCH PARTICIPATION TO BE DESIRABLE."

4. THE COMMISSION ALSO REFERS TO PREVIOUS PROPOSALS IT HAS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL THAT THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATE IN THE FAO INFORMATION AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND THAT THE EC FOOD AID PROGRAM FOR 1975 BE INCREASED BY 356,500 M.T. OF GRAINS AND 15,000 M.T. MILK POWDER, REF A AN B. COMMUNITY AND ITS MEMBER STATES HAVE ALREADY ACCEPTED THE INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY.

5. THE COMMISSION PAPER REFERS TO THE NEED TO CREATE AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON GRAINS AND STATES THAT FOR ITS PART THE COMMUNITY HAS JUST SUBMITTED A FULL OUTLINE IN THE MTN FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT INCLUDING PROVISION FOR A STORAGE SYSTEM.

6. MISSION IS SENDING THE FULL TEXT OF THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL
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BY AIRGRAM. GREENWALD

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